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every reform that we may attempt will be desultory, haphazard, and more or less wasteful of time and energy.

Are the schools and colleges of this state, or any state, prepared to maintain the axiom? I do not believe that they are. Therefore I believe, by way of corollary, that we have only begun an onward movement, the end of which will assuredly not be seen in this century.

J. M. Hart

Cornell University

ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGES AND PREPARATORY SCHOOLS

The Association of Colleges and Preparatory Schools of the Middle States and Maryland, held its conference this year at Columbia college on the Friday and Saturday following Thanksgiving. This has come to be one of the notable educational gatherings of the year, and the meeting this year was certainly one of great value and interest. The executive committee arranged a most sensible program, focusing the attention of the gathering on a few important questions. The whole of the first day was taken up with the general place of the languages in the curriculum, the forenoon session being devoted to the question, Should the degree of A. B. be given to students who have had neither Greek nor Latin? and the afternoon to the related topic, Can any amount of modern language study be made to take the place of the classics in a liberal curriculum? A number of thoughtful papers were presented, and the discussion was animated. Partisans of the classics did not have it all their way, numerically, but on the merits of the question they certainly won the debate. The only paper presented that took the ground that the degree of A. B. might and should be given without Greek and Latin was that of Melvil Dewey. It is only fair to Mr. Dewey to state that he favored no such change in the meaning of the degree while our educational system remained substantially in its present form. His plan contemplated a far-reaching reorganization of higher education in which the degree could have a different meaning from that now conventionally given it. On Saturday the entire

thought of the conference was devoted to the question of English teaching. Readers of the SCHOOL REVIEW have not been left without frequent reminders that this is a burning question, and elsewhere in this issue two strong papers continue a discussion that has been carried on without interruption in these columns during the past twelvemonth. As is stated in Professor Hart's paper, one of the notable facts of the year is the attention that has been paid to the question of English in all the prominent educational meetings. The executive committee, composed entirely of college men, treated the secondary schools with much fairness, and gave them an equal representation with the colleges on the program. We wish we could say the same of the committee that nominated officers, and the body that elected them. Out of twelve official positions eleven were given to college professors or presidents, and one to a representative of the secondary schools. Such stepmotherly treatment as this will be resented by every self-respecting secondary teacher. If the colleges do not mean to meet the secondary schools in this association on a footing of perfect equality, the latter ought to withdraw. Perhaps the line was drawn as it was in the election of officers by accident, but that seems hardly credible. The association will be such only in name until the secondary schools are admitted to full fellowship and their representatives granted the right to hold office. As matters now stand, it looks very much as though the colleges had graciously granted the secondary teachers the privilege of attending the meeting, participating in the discussions, and paying their dues. But the secondary schools cannot, without loss of self-respect, continue long to be satisfied with the crumbs that fall from the rich man's table. The feature of the meeting, we should have said before, was the address by the president, President J. M. Taylor, of Vassar, on "The Neglect of the Student in Recent Educational Theory," given on Friday evening. The meeting next year will be at Johns Hopkins university. As up to that time all the meetings will have been held with the universities, we suppose the year following the meeting will be with one of the great preparatory schools. The president of the association for the coming year is Dr. Patton, president of the College of New Jersey.